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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/710,941	08/13/2004	James A. Ruse	71486-0077	7940
20915 MCGARRY B.	7590 11/28/200 ATR PC	7	EXAMINER	
32 Market Ave	<del>_</del>		SHAFER, RICKY D	
SUITE 500 GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2872	
		)	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			11/28/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary    The MAILING DATE of this communication spears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of me may be available under the protionis or 30 7FR 1:1361, in one vent, lowers, may actyly be intelly fixed and the state of the score of the state of the score of the sco	•	Application No.	Applicant(s)			
Ricky D. Shafer   2872		10/710,941	RUSE ET AL			
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WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of tem may be evalable under the provision of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In so event, however, may a really be limited field of this communication. Plants SIX (6) MONTHS from the marriang date of this communication.  Fallutes to regly which the set or extended printed from the marriang date of this communication.  Fallutes to regly which the set or extended printed from the maining date of this communication. Plants or group with the provision of the marriang date of this communication.  **Pallutes** to received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication. even if timely filled, may reduce any seamed patter than deplatment. Set 7 CFR 1.704(c).  **Status**  1) **Responsive to communication(s) filled on **14 September 2007.**  2a) **This action is FINAL.**  2b) **This action is non-final.**  3) **Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under **Ex parte Quayle**, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  **Disposition of Claims**  4) **C claim(s)** **3.48-19 and 49 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) **						
1)⊠ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 September 2007. 2a)  This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3)⊠ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4)⊠ Claim(s) 3.4.8-19 and 49 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5)⊠ Claim(s) 8-19 and 49 is/are allowed. 6)□ Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7)⊠ Claim(s) 3 and 4 is/are objected to. 8)□ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  Application Papers  9)□ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10)□ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a)□ accepted or b)□ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11)□ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119  12)□ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a)□ All b)□ Some * ○)□ None of: 1.□ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3.□ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3.□ Copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3.□ Copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3.□ Copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3.□ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.	A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any					
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Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6) Other:	Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)     Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/ 5) Notice of Info	Mail Date ormal Patent Application			

Application/Control Number: 10/710,941

Art Unit: 2872

## **DETAILED ACTION**

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:
 Claims 3 and 4 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 3, lines 1-2 and claim 4, line 1, the language "the reinforcing element" should be changed to read --the second reinforcing element--. Appropriate correction is required.

- 2. Claims 3 and 4 would be allowable, if amended, to overcome the above mentioned objection.
- 3. Claims 8-19 and 49 are allowed.
- 4. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.K. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire TWO MONTHS from the mailing date of this letter.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ricky D. Shafer whose telephone number is (571) 272-2320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RDS

November 21, 2007